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EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION PREPAREDNESS BOARD

Washington, D.C. 20472

FEB 3 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Board Members
Working Group Chairmen

FROM: *Lee M. Thomas*
Lee M. Thomas
Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: National Plan of Action

This is an urgent request that you review the fifth draft of the National Plan of Action at Attachment 1 and telephone your report in to John R. Lilley, Director of Operations of the Executive Secretariat (287-0880), by noon tomorrow, February 4, 1983.

The comments that you provided on the fourth draft have been embodied in this draft to the maximum extent possible without creating a situation where word changes would require going back to the beginning and seeking general approval. The major issue that developed concerning the fourth draft was in format and whether or not the implementation measures should be separated from the promulgation statement which will be signed by the President. Let me discuss that in more depth.

At the eighth Board meeting the Treasury representative suggested that the President sign a "cover memorandum" and that someone else, such as the Chairman, sign the actual Plan. He was supported during the meeting by the Justice, Defense and FEMA members. Following the meeting, support for issuing a separated document was added to by the OSTP representative and the Acting Chairman. Since then, the Acting Chairman, OSTP, and Defense have withdrawn that support for the reason that signature by an official other than the President implies a conscious attempt to disassociate the President from the Plan; and since the implementation measures are the Plan, per se, we would be laying the ground for future arguments that the President never actually approved the Plan.

An Executive Summary section has been added to the Plan of Action so that the President will have the opportunity to be familiar with the implementation measures without having to study each word, yet it will make it clear that the Plan of Action is his directive. This format is embodied in this fifth draft for which we seek approval.

The subject of establishing priorities was brought up again in one of the comments. As was established at the eighth Board meeting, all measures that can be accomplished within current and projected budgets are accorded top priority because they represent one of the highest priorities of this Administration. The unprogrammed measures, costs for which amount to a total of \$12.9 million, will be prioritized as they vie for funding in the normal budget process commencing in FY85.

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The latest cost implication data is at Attachment 2 for your information. This data will not be a part of the Plan of Action, but will be sent forward with it, for information, when it is submitted for approval and signature.

The matrix showing agency involvement is also not a part of the Plan. It will be kept up-to-date, however, and issued whenever substantial changes are needed. A second matrix will be forwarded to all concerned, for information, sometime next week.

I ask that you do treat this request with urgency because it is still intended that the Plan of Action be forwarded to the White House tomorrow afternoon.

Attachments

cc: Liaison Officers
Points of Contact

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